



FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

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AMERICAN DESIGNER SPRING: THE LISSOME LOOK

Lithe, limpid fabrics glide languorously over the body, and total absence of inner construction makes even blousons as slim and sinuous as shifts.

THE BIG LOOKS:

- ... DRESSES important, but
- ... PANTS still strong, newest when cut full at top, then tapered to ankle
- ... BLAZERS over everything; many as unstructured and supple as shirts
- ... VESTS, TUNICS, over skirts or pants
- ... FABRIC MIX: Multi-parts -- SUITS

THE ALL-IMPORTANT DRESS: Fagotted white EMPIRE, short dolman sleeves (Geoffrey Beene) ... Striped navy PRINCESS, hem godets (Trigere) ... WRAP -- shawl collar, roll sleeve (Calvin Klein) -- celery jersey/float jacket (Stephen Burrows) -- FLOAT -- white-piped silk check (Joan Sibley) -- crepe de chine/double skirt (Kasper/Joan Leslie) ... BIG -- white gauze, double ruff collar, banded 3-tier skirt (Albert Capraro) -- black/brown border print voile, big yoke, full sleeves (Beene Bag) -- striped crepe de chine shirt (Bill Blass) ... CUTWORK -- on dusty rose flax/silk tweed jacket (Anne Klein) -- lace trimmed white Madeira (Oscar de la Renta) ... NEW SOFT BLOUSONS -- ivory silk, lace-edged collar, cuffs (Blass) -- wide V-neck button front poly jersey, rope belt (Betty Hanson) -- beige crepe/striped silk blazer (Bill Kaiserman/Rafael) -- floral print, border print hip yoke, short puff sleeves (Albert Nipon) -- batwing sleeve periwinkle silk jacquard (Charlotte Ford).

FABRIC MIX MULTI-PARTS: TUNICS -- plaid
(continued on page 3)

PARIS PRET-A-PORTER '78: THE CASUAL SUMMER

In the recent Paris Pret-a-Porter -- as in an increasing number of other fashion markets -- Spring/Summer merged into a single TRANS-SEASON, with styles and fabrics geared for multi-seasonal wear.

THEMES:

- ... Borrowed-from-the-men SWASH- BUCKLING PIRATES, RAJAHS and MATELOTS
- ... PURE ROMANTICISM replaces Fantasy

TRENDS:

- ... DRESSES & SEPARATES for day and night travel the sportswear route
- ... New Slouchy PANTS, often paired with skirts and dresses
- ... SOFT-FOCUS MENSWEAR looks -- unstructured blazers, ties, tuxedo-shirt dresses
- ... WAISTLINE INTEREST on the RISE, wrapped, girdled, center-belted tucked spool midriffs
- ... SLEEVES BILLOW coquettishly, as waistlines go demure
- ... Above-Knee and shorter at Chanel, but others strictly for sundress and playwear; a few after-dark exhibitionists graze the thigh
- ... New Zones for TUCKING (see Details)

SILHOUETTES:

- ... BIG, LOOSE SHAPES to belt in or hang full
- ... BALLOONING pants -- pant hips --

balloon blousons

... MULTI-LAYER ADDENDA: Double petticoats and dresses -- double and triple skirts -- vests, dresses and tunics over pants -- even pants over pants

THE NEWSMAKERS:

PANTS of infinitely varied cut, shape and length are layered under blouses, blazers, smock tops, blouson and battlejackets, tunics and dresses. All are SLOUCH PANTS (May FI) -- tapered or with controlled fullness. In the lead: OVER-BLOWN HIP FULLNESS, THEN TAPERED, often cuffed -- pirates, Nehrus (most at Kenzo) -- with rolled-up leg (Yves Saint Laurent) -- jodhpurs -- ankle-tapered (Valentino), cuffed (YSL) ... BLOUSED -- knee length BLOOMERS, layered under skirts, dresses (Dior, Karl Lagerfeld/Chloe), under jackets (Issey Miyake), in all lengths and banded (Suzuya) -- Dutch boy (YSL) -- rompers, short Indian dhotis (Ungaro) -- bloused longs (Valentino), zouave pants (Dorothee Bis), billowing TURKISH and MOROCCAN sarouel trousers (Ungaro, Chantal Thomass/Ter et Bantine) ... Giant, cuffed BALLOON pants in various lengths (Miyake) and....

MORE PANTS: HIGH WAISTED (Dior), belted (YSL), ankle-tapered (Pablo & Delia), smocked high-rise waistband (Valentino) ... HARLEQUIN, each leg a different color (Castelbajac, Pablo & Delia) ... QUILTED from mid-thigh to ankle; horizontally quilted-hemband capris (YSL) ... TROUSERS, cuffed, straight (Ricci), wide, under signature cardigans (Philippe Guibourge/Chanel) ... Pantaloons ... SHORTS, DIRNDL CULOTTES, CAPRIS, many high-waisted ... THE ULTIMATE: mid-calf pants over narrower long pants (Sonia Rykiel).

FEW DRESSES lead a life of their own: Big dresses are invariably layered over tapered or slouch pants, loose dresses layered under vests and/or blazers. The Newsiest: Gigi-fied French sailor knit dresses and separates over short pants (Dior) ... Slims (Chloe) ... Tenty, Nehru (Kenzo) ... Body-skimming long torso (Ter et Bantine) ... BLOUSONS still strong, newly at waistline; hip-bloused (YSL).

LIKELY FORDS-IN-YOUR-FUTURE JACKETS:

Balloon blousons; simple quilted cotton cardigan "Opium" jackets named for his new perfume and forthcoming book (YSL) ...

BLAZERS, unstructured, drop shoulder (Valentino in the vanguard) -- big shouldered; shirtjacs (Dior) ... TUCKED, broad shoulder Spencers; longer jacket bottoms tucked in back to snug hips (Chloe).

SUMMER COATS: DUSTERS, soft (Chloe), short (Kansai Yamamoto) ... NEHRU, coats (Chloe).

EVENINGS, casual or romantic: Sportswear separates epitomized by casual rolled sleeve plaid cotton shirt/double-flounced irregular hemline wrap skirt/shawl (YSL) ... Romantic big-sleeved bouffant ... Seductive lacy ruffled, embroidered lingerie looks in black, ecru (Chloe) ... Full-blown mid-calf skirts (Dior) ... Dipping hems (YSL).

EVENING EXCESSES sure to be toned down: See-through transparencies (YSL, Chloe, Chanel, Castelbajac) ... SLITS front and both sides on street length skirts; sides slit from neckline to hem on above-knee dresses (YSL) ... Convertible UPSIDE-DOWN dresses (Chloe) ... Thigh-high skirts.

NEW DETAILS: Wildly elongated, narrow four-in-hand ties (Kenzo, Chloe) -- miniature bow ties (Kenzo) ... DOLMAN and PUFFED Sleeves ... Side-slanted pockets, on pants (YSL) -- diagonally pleated, opening to skirt fullness on separates (Chloe) ... Quilted and sweater vests (Chanel), quilting newest on pants (YSL) ... Ruffles, Flounces ... Smidgens of petticoat or pantaloons peeping out below hemlines ... DRAWSTRING hems on dresses, tunics, knit blazers (Rykiel), drawstring-waisted pants ... NEW TUCKING ZONES: Midribs (Valentino), skirt hems (Dior), jacket backs (Chloe).

THE BANDWAGON FABRICS: COTTON -- poplin, sateen, gauze ... LINEN, HEMP, JUTE ... Sheer SILKS -- chiffon, crepe de chine, net and point d'esprit used in sportswear ... RAW silk -- noile ... PREVAILING PRINTS: etched, stenciled florals -- rainbow stripes ... Softened MENSWEAR patterns -- checks, tattersalls, foulards ... STANDOUT COLORS: Subdued -- WHITE, cream -- green from olive drab, khaki, putty -- yellow, mustard.

DESIGNER RTW (continued from page 1)

silk crepe de chine/print skirt/blouse (Blass) -- sleeveless ecru silk/print blouse/saffron skirt (Dimitri) ... VESTS -- rosewood basket weave silk tunic-length/striped silk shirt/dirndl (Charles Suppon/Intre Sport) -- multi-fiber ribbed/tunic-shirt/linen skirt/cotton skirt (Perry Ellis/Portfolio) -- pinked-seam chamois/blouse/raw silk shirttail skirt (Burrows) -- wrap 'n tie chamois/silk shirt/stenciled dirndl (Bill Atkinson) -- wine, buttoned/tucked silk dirndl/roll sleeve overshirt (Cesarani) ... JACKETS -- Unconstructed -- natural texture, pink-piped/skirt/high neck drawstring blouse (Beene Bag) -- purple fly-away/hand painted blouse/fuchsia skirt (Burrows) -- jute/scalloped handkerchief linen shirt jac/white cutwork shell/flax skirt (Anne Klein) -- blouson -- beige mohair/cream blouse/full skirt (Mollie Parnis Boutique) -- blazer -- violet-piped green raw silk/striped silk blouse/lavender pleat-yoke skirt (Beene) -- short brown raw silk/printed georgette blouson/fringed hem red-clay georgette skirt (Anne Klein) -- boxy -- short maroon/ruffle-edge plaid blouse/3-tier skirt (Don Sayres/Gamut) -- ombre McNutt Tartan shawl collared/bias skirt/maroon oversized mohair boucle T-shirt (Bill Haire/Friedricks Sport).

1978 PANTS ENSEMBLES, newest pants bias-cut and clinging, tapered or short: Narrow-leg flax-linen tweed/short shawl collar blazer/sheer linen surplice shirt/long linen duster; gray flannel/herringbone linen blazer/stone silk charmeuse wrap blouse; slim charmeuse/lace sweater/duster (Calvin Klein) ... Striped pleat-front/white blazer/checked vest (Trigere) -- wrap-waist, skinny ankle raw silk/almost transparent petit point jersey top/corded ribbed vest (Betty Hanson) ... White/yellow-white dotted "Tuxedo shirt" dress, or striped tuxedo front tunic (Suppon) ... Raw silk/tabbed roll-up sleeve tunic jacket/red clay georgette overblouse; poly-flax/drawstring jute bubble/silk sweater (Anne Klein) ... PEGGED PANTS -- black Fibranne/roll sleeve cream crepe de chine shirt; Ultrasuede/man's vest/silk shirt (Halston) ... PAPER BAG waist -- hopsack/vest/gauze blouse (Ralph Lauren) -- ankle-bloused knit chenille/jacket/tie-striped Tee (Bill Atkinson) ... Bias-wrap/chiffon dolman surplice top (John Anthony)

... ROLLED UP -- plaid leno cotton/rolled sleeve buttonless sportcoat (Perry Ellis) -- chamois/blouson/pale yellow safari jacket (Rafael) ... Maize silk harems/gray mushroom pleated blouse/quilted coat (Mary McFadden) ... Ironstone silk jersey clinging wrapped leg dhoti/strapless blouson (Bill Haire).

EVENING ENCHANTMENT: LACE-OVERS -- yoked lace-from-the-'40's float/tiered (Koos van den Akker) -- beige overskirt/peach silk dress (Kasper) -- white over-blouse/ pin-striped crepe de chine dress (Adele Simpson) ... TWO-PIECE -- dotted red silk blouse/striped full skirt (Beene) -- pink charmeuse blouse/full skirt/braided belt (Calvin Klein) -- square neck ruffled crepe de chine blouse/long tucked and ruffled skirt (Gamut) -- lace-collared georgette nightshirt/accordion pleated silk ankle skirt (Betty Hanson) ... EVENING BLOUSONS -- rose silk, deep side-slit (Burrows) -- strapless tobacco silk georgette, sarong knotted/brown raw silk blazer (Anne Klein) -- lace edged gray satin camisole, gathered skirt (Lauren) ... Bright blue silk chiffon one-shoulder, envelope-flap panel (Halston) ... White chiffon off-shoulder, hand painted taffeta skirt (de la Renta) ... New "swirl" hem (van den Akker) -- handkerchief hem (Trigere).

WINNING NEW SILKS -- chiffon, georgette, crepe de chine, charmeuse, jacquard, raw ... RUNNERS-UP -- cotton gauze, voile, leno, damask, batiste -- jute, hopsack, lightweight mohair, boucle ... COLORS: White through face powder tones -- lavender-violet-amethyst and peach-to-apricot make strong showing -- GRAY is big Spring surprise.

BIG TREND to shawl collars ... Lace is IN, edging cuffs and collars, or as inserts ... Tucks and ruffles, fagotting, smocking and shirring continue to set the feminine mood ... Supple fabrics initiate many amusing and witty ways of LAYERING.

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IMPORTANT DATES

N.Y. - Nat'l Boutique Show, Jan. 5-8
HONOLULU - Hawaii Fashion Market, Jan. 6-11
L.A. - N.Y. Fashion Creators, Jan. 6-9
N.Y. - Summer Ready-to-Wear, Jan. 9-20
HONG KONG - Annual RTW Festival, Jan. 21-27
MILAN - Ready-To-Wear Showings, March 27-31
PARIS - Pret-A-Porter Showings, April 8-12

CALIFORNIA CONTEMPORARY: EASY DOES IT

Easy shapes, easy fabrics, easy colors and easy layerings characterize California's Spring 1978 collections.

HIGHLIGHTS:

... ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL gaining strength,
Bird In The Hand and By Chance
-- in addition to Fragments

... DRAWSTRING shoulders, necklines,
sleeves, skirts, pants

... LAYERING on the double: vests, skirts

... JUMBO jackets, dresses, tops

PULLING STRINGS, DRAWSTRINGS, that is:

DRESSES -- shirred shoulder front/back lettuce-edge jersey, flying panel skirt (Phyllis Sues) -- shirred sleeves & waist, flapped cargo pockets, pale printed gauze/self-rosettes scarf for head or waist (Marion Kops) -- neck & waist, tan-dotted white, short roll-ups (Georgette) -- side drawstring ties at neck, self-belted ruffle collar poly-wool challis (Bird In The Hand) ... PANTS -- drawstring-hemmed sapphire silk crepe de chine/2-pocket geisha jacket (d.b.a. Ltd.) -- lilac spandex "caterpillar" drawstring jumpsuit/shirred sleeve cocoon tunic (The It Company) -- drawstring waist white roll up shorts/bark color camp shirt/shrimp maillot (Nancy Stolkin).

NEW LAYERED LOOKS: Bias-cut red silk jacquard origami coat-or-dress/yellow halter/white-panted jumpsuit; natural silk noile jersey chemise, knotted sash/drawstring dirndl skirt (Masako) -- slate rayon/flax cowl neck cummerbund dress/2 vests, one clay, one coral (Sues) -- shirred amethyst crepe de chine pants/shirt/rose sarong; printed georgette cape worn front-or-back/slip dress (Taylor Hastie/d.b.a.) -- tab sleeve jersey tunic, adjustable hem for shortening/pants or skirt/cardigan/camisole; side slit, hip belted lilac voile one-shoulder dress/narrow white pants;

3-tiered lilac & bark voile skirt/bark vest/white camp shirt, roll-up sleeves (Stolkin) -- dusty green noile 2-button jacket/tiger lily print skirt/peach bolero/tucked gray trousers (Wayne Woods/Out of the Woods) -- natural wild silk skirt/3-button, side-slit jacket/big silk blouse; round collar, split 'n tie neck, crowded floral print silk dress/above-ankle skirt (Harriet Selwyn/Fragments).

JUMBO LOOKS: SHIRTS -- Hawaiian print/shirred, amethyst silk crepe de chine pants (Hastie) -- Schiffli-embroidered hem long blousy rayon challis/pants (Bird In The Hand) ... DRESSES -- tent, silver gray wraparound waist Qiana/jacket to tie or not (Fragments) -- shirt, tucked shoulder Cantonini broadcloth carnation print/full yoke shirt/yoked skirt (Sues) ... cardigan, deep natural bulky silk knit/silk pongee tapered drawstring pants (Masako) -- lilac shirtjac/yoked green wide-leg pants (Stolkin) -- putty rayon burlap knotted-ends poncho/drawstring pants (Kops) ... COATS -- bias cut origami alternating striped gauze/fishnet, hangtag shows conversion to hooded jacket, shawl, other variants (Masako).

DRESSES continue strong, many detailed with feminine frippery: BLOUSONS -- palm print silk crepe de chine, halter bodice/shawl; kimono sleeved T-neck crepe de chine, pep-lum/ slim silk pants, culottes or bias-cut skirt (It Co.) -- ruffled raspberry cotton knit, sleeveless (Hastie) -- tiered skirt/antique-embroidered butterfly net jacket (Sues) ... OFF-SHOULDER -- rose print Italian cotton double ruffled neck, sleeves, drawstring waist (Kops) -- peach/toast/white print, triple ruffles top & bottom (Georgette) -- cape-collared print tiered skirt (Albers).

THE MAKINGS: PURE FIBERS in many textures, often in duet -- cotton, from voile to knitted string -- silk newest in noile, a lightly nubbed, dry hand knit or woven -- rayon chiefly in challis, burlap, jersey ... COLORS range from powdery pastels to Summer brights -- beige-putty -- gray trending.

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